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Copy 7 of 8

22 JUN 1962

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Research)  
SUBJECT : Photographic Resolution Targets  
REFERENCE : [redacted] dated 4 June 1962, same subject

1. DPO has evaluated the referenced document and concurs with the requirement for adequate resolution targets for our advanced reconnaissance systems. Personnel of DPO and DPIC have been working informally with SAFSS regarding consolidation of requirements for such targets. The consensus of opinion has been that a contractor must be given a continuing responsibility to maintain such targets once they are established. This maintenance must include the necessary scientific instrumentation for measurement of atmospheric conditions and lighting at the time of exposure. The program as outlined for the Hycan photo system under Project 6220 at the Aerial Reconnaissance Laboratory is a step in the desired direction.

2. For a number of years [redacted] has been at work attempting to establish specifications for future resolution targets for joint usage. As usual, several years of committee action have resulted mostly in disagreements over details. One school of thought is for three dimensional targets, another school of thought insists on maintaining standard bar charts with variable contrasts, still another school insists on sine wave response targets. To varying degrees color combinations have been discussed at great lengths. In the end, the committee action has resulted in no decisions. SAFSS has attempted to initiate action on this problem area by funding and designing a target system based on generally accepted proposals. To this basic target system could be added additional target types, colors, and sizes, as required, and as funding permits. I feel that we should endorse this effort.

3. The Perkin-Elmer Company have already fabricated one set of sine wave response targets for testing their camera. These targets are portable and could be laid out, as required, at any location.

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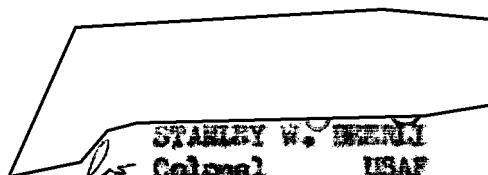


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4. We have just learned that the U. S. Army also has established some form of resolution target in the area of Sandia, Albuquerque, New Mexico. We are attempting to obtain data on these targets through Army Map Service. It is our understanding that these targets were designed with the ARCON program in mind.

5. As soon as data is obtained from the Army, a meeting is planned between DPD, NPIC, and SAPBS (hopefully with AMS included) to evaluate the over-all national capability and future requirements.

  
for STANLEY W. BIERLI  
Colonel USAF  
Acting Chief, DPD

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DPD/DB/   
(12 June 1962)  
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